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Serial No. 10/062,588 filed July 5, 2001  
Response of May 7, 2009  
to Office Action of January 7, 2009

#### Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-15 (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture, comprising:

~~an oven mitt article for holding a pot, said article oven mitt comprising a ring, fastener for attaching said oven mitt to a mounted rod without removing the rod from its supports, said fastener comprising a loop having an opening in said loop, said ring being affixed to said article, and ring comprising a opening and a slit, said slit comprising a first width,~~

~~said opening comprising an open configuration and a closed configuration; wherein said ring has sufficient flexibility to allow a user to enlarge said first width of said slit to a greater width when force is applied by the user,~~

~~wherein said fastener can be inserted onto a rod when said opening is in said open configuration,~~

~~and wherein said ring has memory such that, after being flexed, said slit will return to said first width when the force is removed.~~

~~and wherein said fastener is secured onto the rod such that said oven mitt hangs off of the rod when said fastener is in said closed configuration.~~

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17. (Currently Amended) An article as claimed in claim 16, wherein said ~~oven-mitt~~ article comprises an edge and said fastener comprises a slit, and wherein said slit intersects with said edge.
18. (Currently Amended) An article as claimed in claim 17, wherein said edge is an upper edge of said article.
19. (Currently Amended) An article as claimed in claim 16, wherein said fastener can also be used to suspend said ~~oven-mitt~~ article from a ~~hook rod~~, without removing the rod from its supports.

Claims 20-21 (Canceled)

Claims 22-24 (Canceled)

25. (New) An article of manufacture, comprising:  
a towel-related product, said towel-related product comprising a ring,  
said ring being affixed to said towel-related product, and ring comprising a opening and a slit, said slit comprising a first width,  
wherein said ring has sufficient flexibility to allow said slit to be enlarged from said first width of said slit to a greater width when force is applied by the user,  
and wherein said ring has memory such that, after being flexed, said slit will return to said first width when the force is removed.

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26. (New) An article as claimed in claim 16, wherein said article is an oven mitt.
27. (New) An article as claimed in claim 25, wherein said article is an oven mitt.
28. (New) An article as claimed in claim 16, wherein said article is a potholder.
29. (New) An article as claimed in claim 25, wherein said article is a potholder.
  
30. (New) An article as claimed in claim 25, wherein said article comprises an edge and said fastener comprises a slit, and wherein said slit intersects with said edge.
31. (New) An article as claimed in claim 25, wherein said edge is an upper edge of said article.
32. (New) An article as claimed in claim 25, wherein said fastener can be used to suspend said article from a rod, without removing the rod from its supports.